

Serial No. 10/823,570

REMARKS

In the Office Action the Examiner noted that claims 1-16 are pending in the application, and the Examiner rejected all claims. By this Amendment, claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, and 16 have been amended. No new matter has been presented. Thus, claims 1-16 remain pending in the application. The Examiner's rejections are traversed below, and reconsideration of all rejected claims is respectfully requested.

Objection To the Specification

In item 2 on page 2 of the Office Action the Examiner objected to the specification of the present application. The Examiner alleged that the title of the invention is not descriptive.

By this Amendment, the title has been amended. Therefore, the Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the Examiner's objection to the specification.

Claim Rejections Under 35 USC §101

In item 4 on pages 2 and 3 of the Office Action the Examiner rejected claims 1-16 under 35 U.S.C. §101, alleging that the claims as recited are directed to non-statutory subject matter.

By this Amendment, claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, and 16 have been amended and no longer include the language in the form rejected by the Examiner. Further, the remaining dependent claims were rejected merely based on depending from the rejected independent claims. Therefore, the Applicants respectfully request the withdrawal of the Examiner's §101 rejections of claims 1-16.

Allowable Subject Matter

In item 5 on page 3 of the Office Action the Examiner objected to claims 1-16, but indicated that these claims would be allowable if rewritten to overcome the §101 rejections. As the independent claims have been amended and now satisfy the requirements of §101, the Applicants respectfully submit that claims 1-16 are in condition for allowance.

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Summary

In accordance with the foregoing, claims 1, 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, and 16 have been amended. No new matter has been presented. Thus, claims 1-16 are pending and under consideration.

There being no further outstanding objections or rejections, it is respectfully submitted that the application is in condition for allowance. An early action to that effect is courteously solicited.

Finally, if there are any formal matters remaining after this response, the Examiner is requested to telephone the undersigned to attend to these matters.

If there are any additional fees associated with filing of this Amendment, please charge the same to our Deposit Account No. 19-3935.

Respectfully submitted,

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